

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
June 14, 2018

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called to order the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board on Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 6:42 PM. Board members attending were Supervisor Rob Middlemis-Brown, Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Deneen Connell, Trustee Chuck Bennetts, and Clerk Adeline Schmidt. About 10 local residents were in attendance. Supervisor Middlemis-Brown asked for additions to the agenda. Trustee Connell asked if it had been agreed that public comment would be allowed at other times than just the beginning of the meeting. It was agreed to.

The regular meeting minutes from 5/10/18 were presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the minutes, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Next the Treasurer's report was presented. Treasurer Kastelic commented that the Water Fund appeared low only because one large bill could not yet be paid back from the Well Savings Account; also, that a check for over \$5000 had been received that probably was supposed to go to a different "Sherman Township." She had not heard back from the organization that had issued the check. The Clerk made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, seconded by Trustee Bennetts, and all votes were "ayes." Reports from the General, Water, and Sewer Funds of the actual expenses compared to what was budgeted were presented next and discussed. The bills were presented next and discussed.

Trustee Bennetts made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	June salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	June salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	June salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Charles Bennetts	Trustee	Per Diem	50.00-3.00-0.73	046.27
Deneen Connell	Trustee	Per Diem	50.00-3.00-0.73	046.27
Robert Strykowski	Water Plant Operator(5/01-5/19/18), Grounds Maintenance			298.94
Charles Bennetts	Sewer Plant Operator - 5/2018			200.83
Rob Middlemis-Brown	Fire Chief - 5/2018			046.27
JT Reno	Water Plant Operator (5/20-5/31/18)			133.27
Kelly Jarvi	Deputy clerk - Election Training 9.5 hrs and mileage			108.64
Cardmember Service	Cr. Card -stamps, signs, W/F & F/D reimbursements			290.65
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (45.65), 17 st. lights (160.65), fire hall (68.85)			275.15
A T & T	Fire hall (57.04), Office (64.09)			121.13
Erhart Assessing, LLC	Assessor – June 2018 fee			370.00
Water Fund	Hydrant rental -6/2018			200.00
MI Township Association	Annual membership (183), legal defense fee (5.49)			188.49
Mark Erhart	Reimbursement for postage			018.30
MI Municipal League	Liability & property insurance			4,918.00
Keweenaw County	Building permit for fire station addition			288.00
Sherman Twp VFD Millage	Grant from State of MI for work done on '94 tanker			1,843.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund	Reimbursement for cr. cd. - ID cards for fire fighters	097.00
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WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (826 KWH)	181.80
General Fund	WPO salary, empl. contri., postage, chlorine test kits	476.57
White Water Assoc.,	Water tests (Inv 158962) lead/copper, fluoride, nitrate, nitrite, sodium	192.00
2018 Water Supply Well Savings	\$9/month water rate increase (6/14/18 deposit)	180.00
RRI Water Savings	\$6/mo. rate increase(6/14/18 deposit)	120.00
MI Municipal League	Property & liability insurance - water portion	856.00
UP Engineers & Architects	Inv 1801362-professional services, well planning & financing	1,469.46

2018 WATER SUPPLY WELL SAVINGS

Water Checking Account	Reimbursement for INV 1801362	1,469.46
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SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1315 KWH)	268.80
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions	237.25
MI Municipal League	Insurance - property & liability - sewer portion	713.00
Sewer RRI Savings	1/4 of annual to be saved	250.00

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown explained that he was late for the meeting because he was on the phone with a surveyor. Apparently part of the sewer drain field is on a property that was recently sold. He plans to work out an agreement with the new owners, maybe buying it or doing a land swap. Other people with land abutting it expressed interest in the survey.

He met the previous day with the MML Insurance representative who discussed the costs for each account.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: Treasurer Kastelic had recently met with other township treasurers in the county. One thing discussed was what they did when tax payments were over or under the billing amount. Almost all of them (including the County) have a \$5 over/under amount that is ignored, making up the difference from the admin fees. Treasurer Kastelic made a motion to discount or overlook over/under payments of \$5 or less because it is not cost effective to deal with lesser amounts, Trustee Connell seconded. On a roll call vote, all votes were "ayes."

Because it is a public building, the plans for the Fire Station shed addition had to be approved by a committee at the County level and a building permit was obtained. McGann's has the finalized list of materials and delivery will be after the Fourth of July. A 12 inch auger will be rented to dig holes for the uprights. The hardest part was matching the siding of the current Fire Hall. Construction will begin on July 7th and continue on the 14th. Other dates will be scheduled later as needed. Members of the Fire Department plan to do the construction.

The Supervisor sent out emails of possible benches and playground equipment to get with the \$2500 the previous Auxiliary gave the Township for Park equipment. A discussion followed about what sizes and quality to get, and whether or not it could be supplemented with P.A. 48 funds. Further discussion is needed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The regular meeting was held Tuesday. The plans for the Fourth of July are the same as last year. The bar will sell the beer, the FD will purchase hot dogs from them for resale with the soft drinks and raffle tickets. A discussion followed about the parade. The Township fences and ramp railing will be repaired by the Fire Dept. The FD will participate in the second Keweenaw Safety Day in Mohawk on July 21st. The Sheriff is doing the arrangements for it and it is for the whole county: free food, fire dept. activities, the search and rescue dog, games, etc. Financial donors for the food will be recognized on the program as sponsors.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Water Plant Operator Bob Strykowski reported that JT Reno covered for him the past three weeks and everything went well. Water sample reports for the month came back good. 5 copper and lead samples were sent in and one copper was over the limit. It was at a house that has tested in the upper limits in the past and will be tested again with specific instructions on cleaning the aerator before the water is drawn. He was told the lead samples do not have to be repeated for now. All of the water samples for the year are done except for the monthly ones. One well driller looked at the proposed well site and will submit a bid. Apparently there are 275 pages of specs that have to be waded through first. The bids will be opened June 20th. The financing process continues.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: While Sewer Plant Operator Bennetts has resigned, he is still covering the operation. No one has requested the job. He reported that the number of wipes has decreased substantially the last month. Trustee Connell said she put signs in the bar bathrooms and she has talked to the people in the bar, requesting that they not flush straws and wipes down the drains. The job pays \$200/month and involves checking the field at least once a week. Annual reports will still be written by Chris at UP Engineers. When the DEQ checked the field in May there was standing water which was attributed to snow melt. They plan to check it again in a couple of months and the planned repairs need to be done. One estimate for the repairs planned for this summer was \$7700: ditches, drainage, control panel, etc. The Supervisor contacted UP Engineers and asked why the whole system has to be pumped before the DEQ does their sampling. The pumping will cost about \$2000. The engineer agreed that the system should not have to be modified for them to take a sample and offered to contact the DEQ to let them know that the cost is an enormous burden for the Township and hopefully to get the requirement changed. Work still planned this year is to calibrate the injection pumps and reinstall the flow meter.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Committee is meeting next Wednesday, June 20th at 6:00 PM. All residents are welcome at the meetings which are usually held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. Committee minutes are on the Township's website: www.keweenawcountyonline.org/, "township officials"-Sherman Township. The Committee plans to check out the sewer system in the near future by pulling each manhole cover in town and just observing where wipes, etc. might be coming from. They need a tool to pull the covers. Because they are being proactive with the current problems with the sewer system, the Committee does not feel an increase in rates or fees is needed. At the next meeting they plan to formally approve CRRPs (Capital Renovation & Replacement Plan) for the water and sewer systems.

DEPUTY TREASURER: Treasurer Kastelic reported that she is the only treasurer in the County without a deputy. After settling some points about who will have what duties, she chose JT Reno to be her Deputy Treasurer beginning in July.

NEW BUSINESS: An email has been received stating the State mandate to change our account numbers to follow the Chart of Accounts numbering system is being delayed a year.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on July 12, 2018 at 6:30 PM.